

By: Representatives Gadd, Akins, Barnett,  
Beckett, Brown, Capps, Chism, Denny, Espy,  
Evans, Fillingane, Fleming, Franks, Green,  
Guice, Gunn, Howell, Ishee, Lott, Masterson,  
Mayo, McBride, Miles, Moak, Moody, Moss,  
Patterson, Peranich, Pierce, Reynolds, Robinson (84th), Rotenberry,  
Shows, Smith (39th), Staples, Stevens, Upshaw, Vince, Whittington,  
Woods, Zuber, Rogers (14th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 114

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
2 MISSISSIPPI (OLE MISS) REBELS FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACH DAVID  
3 CUTCLIFFE FOR AN OUTSTANDING 2003-2004 SEASON.

4 WHEREAS, the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) Rebels  
5 Football Team had a very outstanding and successful 2003-2004  
6 season of play, finishing the season with an overall record of ten  
7 wins and three losses, which included seven wins and one loss mark  
8 in the Southeastern Conference (SEC), sharing the SEC Western  
9 Division title with the BCS National Champion, LSU; and

10 WHEREAS, the Rebels defeated Oklahoma State 31-28 in the 2004  
11 Cotton Bowl Classic in Dallas, Texas, which marked the 31st  
12 all-time bowl appearance for Ole Miss, tying with Florida for the  
13 15th position on the NCAA's Division 1-A all-time list of bowl  
14 appearances; and

15 WHEREAS, this year's victory over Oklahoma State left the  
16 Rebels with a bowl record of 19 wins and 12 losses, which ties for  
17 tenth on the NCAA's Division 1-A list for bowl victories; and

18 WHEREAS, in the final national polls, Ole Miss was ranked No.  
19 13 by the Associated Press, No. 14 by USA Today/ESPN and No. 14 by  
20 the FWAA Grantland Rice Super 16 Board; and

21 WHEREAS, Ole Miss broke single-season school records for  
22 first downs with 295; total points scored with 442; and total  
23 offensive yards per game with 433.2; and

24 WHEREAS, as a team, the Rebels led the SEC in scoring offense  
25 with 34.0; pass offense with 286.0; kick returns with 23.7; total  
26 offense with 433.2; punting with 39.0; pass efficiency with 150.7;  
27 third down conversions with 45.6; red zone offense with 90.0;

28 field goals with 86.2 percent and PAT kicking with 100 percent;  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, many individuals on the Rebels team have received  
31 numerous honors, recognition and awards for their fine display of  
32 athleticism, including: quarterback, Eli Manning; defensive  
33 lineman, Josh Cooper; defensive back, Wes Scott; kicker, Jonathan  
34 Nichols; wide receiver, Chris Collins; offensive guard, Doug  
35 Buckles; defensive tackle, Jesse Mitchell; punter, Cody Ridgeway  
36 and linebacker, Jamil Northcutt; and

37 WHEREAS, the Rebels have been superbly coached and inspired  
38 by the Ole Miss coaching staff under the leadership and direction  
39 of Head Coach David Cutcliffe, who have broadened their knowledge  
40 of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

41 WHEREAS, Head Coach David Cutcliffe has brought additional  
42 honor to himself and Ole Miss by being named SEC Coach of the Year  
43 by the SEC coaches, Co-Coach of the Year by the Associated Press,  
44 and NCAA Division 1-A Region 2 Coach of the Year by the American  
45 Football Coaches Association; and

46 WHEREAS, the Ole Miss Rebels have developed a winning and  
47 cooperative spirit and a high degree of sportsmanship, and their  
48 activities and attitude reflect great credit upon the individual  
49 players and their coaches and bring honor to Ole Miss; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
51 recognize and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by the  
52 young people of our state, who are its future:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
55 commend and congratulate the Ole Miss Rebels Football Team, Head  
56 Coach David Cutcliffe and the entire Rebels Football coaching  
57 staff, for all the accomplishments achieved during their 2003-2004  
58 season of play and extend our heartiest wishes for success in all  
59 their athletic, educational and professional endeavors.

60           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
61 furnished to Ole Miss, Head Coach David Cutcliffe and to the  
62 members of the Capitol Press Corps.